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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Malaya

SUBJECT ~~Solo~~ Fishing Vessels Sighted In Singapore

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

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SOURCE

Merchant marine officer of a large US shipping company

[The Office of Naval Intelligence furnished the following information to CIA for IAC dissemination in accordance with paragraph 3c of NSCID #7. This information was obtained by DIO-3ND and was forwarded as ONI report 31-547.]

1. Description: At 0300 on 22 January 1954, a fleet of 20 fishing vessels in the company of a mother ship were observed arriving in Singapore. a port pilot in Singapore identified them at the time as Russian. The vessels were about 130 feet long and appeared to be trawlers. The mother ship was described as a merchant ship, possibly converted, resembling a Great Lakes cargo ship. She had a counter stern, was approximately 300 feet long, and had three island structures with two hatches in the well-deck forward and one in the well-deck aft. (Probably hull type code "24").
2. Visual Signals: Communication by blinker light was observed taking place among many of the vessels, but due to the rapidity of the signals none could be noted. Source commended the efficiency of the signalmen and expressed the belief that they were exceedingly good.
3. Itinerary: No information was available concerning the fleet's itinerary but source speculated that the vessels were coming from the West and were heading up the Chinese Coast. He believed they were calling at Singapore for supplies and provisions.
4. [Source's ship was on the way out of Singapore at the time of the sighting. Due to darkness, nationality could not be observed, but the port pilot seemed certain of the vessels' identity. The other observations in this report, including the counting of the vessels, were made by the source personally.]

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